

**Proposed Agreement between California Energy Commission
and
ICF Consulting, Services, L.L.C.**

Title: R&D Strategic Plan Development
Amount: \$194,621.00
Term: 24 months
Contact: Leah Mohney
Committee Meeting: 7/28/2011

Funding

FY	Program	Area	Initiative	Budget	This Project	Remaining Balance	
10	Electric	PSU	Technical Support Contract	\$1,000,000	\$194,621	\$805,379	81%

Recommendation

Approve this agreement with ICF Consulting Services, L.L.C. for \$194,621.00. Staff recommends placing this item on the discussion calendar of the Commission Business Meeting.

Issue

The PIER Advisory Board requested the Research and Development (R&D) Program develop and publish a Strategic Plan that provides transparency into the future Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) funding decisions and the priority used by the R&D program in selecting future research projects.

Background

The R&D program developed and published a five-year investment plan for program years 2007 - 2012 for both the electricity and natural gas programs. In the November 10, 2010 PIER Advisory Board (Board) meeting, the Board requested an updated strategic plan be developed that better defines the strategy used by the R&D Program as it continues research Investment beyond 2012. Since the November meeting, PIER staff worked on developing a R&D Strategic Vision to be used as part of the plan development. Additional outside expertise is needed to develop and publish a thorough and integrated strategic plan. This California Multiple Award Schedules (CMAS) effort will be used to assist the R&D staff in working with key stakeholders, other state agencies, and other Energy Commission staff to develop the plan.

Proposed Work

The competitively selected CMAS contractor will provide the following assistance in developing the R&D Strategic Plan:

- Host focus groups with key partners, stakeholders and others to obtain insights into the development of the Strategic Plan
- Provide assistance in the development and drafting of the Strategic Plan
- Coordinate public workshops to discuss the draft plan and obtain feedback
- Provide assistance in finalizing the plan

The initial work completed by R&D staff indicates that the Strategic Plan will have the following key elements:

- 5 year planning horizon
- Describes the research path to attaining 2020 energy policy goals
- Loading order is dominant
- Defines a research stage program focus (e.g., exploratory, basic, demonstration, etc.)
- Describes desired research portfolio outcomes

Additionally, initial work completed by R&D staff indicates that the following outcomes are desired:

- Defined research links to market/end use/venture capital
- Benefits analysis of strategic outcomes/recommendations
- Implements a transparent, inclusive process that satisfies program planning transparency complaints
- Plan will be the vehicle to create future R&D budgets
- Plan vision will be accessible to the widest possible audience
- Plan will have stability for multiple years

Justification and Goals

This project is to "...obtain, technical, scientific, or administrative services or expertise from one or more entities, to support the program ... [using] ... Public Interest Research, Development, and Demonstration Fund[s]" (Public Resources Code 25620.7.(a)).

This will be accomplished by:

- Developing a Strategic Plan to guide the future direction of research and program initiatives of the public interest energy R&D Program.